GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:289
ANSWERED ON:03.09.2007
PRE PAID CONNECTIONS WITHOUT VERIFICATION
Naik Shri Shripad Yasso;Tripathi Shri Chandramani

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the private telecom companies are issuing pre-paid connections on the basis of incomplete documents in a bid to expand their market;

(b) if so, whether the SIM-cards issued in this manner are being used for illegal and terrorism-related activities;

(c) if so, whether the Government has issued any guidelines to private telecom companies in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the manner in which the private companies are complying with the guidelines?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 289 FOR 3RD SEPTEMBER, 2007 REGARDING PRE-PAID CONNECTIONS WITHOUT VERIFICATION.

(a) to (d) Sir, some instances came to the notice of Department of Telecommunications (DoT) that certain mobile service providers are not complying fully with the instructions issued by DoT from time to time on subscriber verification giving rise to possibility that some of the mobile phones may be used for illegal and terrorism-related activities.

Special drives were conducted to ascertain the status of subscriber verification through sample checks. Based on the observations of special drive, the matter was reviewed and directions were issued to service providers to disconnect by 31st March, 2007 such connections that have been provided without proper verification.

DoT carried out the auditing of the subscriber verification by service providers and found certain discrepancies and show-cause notices have been issued to the concerned service providers.